



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/925,571	08/09/2001	Alan Haaksma	P68.2-10065	2900
490	7590	03/03/2006	EXAMINER	
VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A. 6109 BLUE CIRCLE DRIVE SUITE 2000 MINNETONKA, MN 55343-9185			RINES, ROBERT D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3626	

DATE MAILED: 03/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/925,571	Applicant(s) HAAKSMA ET AL.	
	Examiner Robert D. Rines	Art Unit 3626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/925,571.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2/25/02, 9/23/02</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

[1] This communication is in response to the patent application filed 9 August 2001. The IDS statements filed 11 December 2001, 25 February 2002, 23 September 2002, and 12 June 2003 have been entered and considered. Applicant's foreign priority date of 16 July 2001 is noted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

[2] Claims 21 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

[A] The term "approximately the size of a conventional credit card" in claim 21 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "approximately" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

Art Unit: 3626

Therefore, claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

[B] Claim 36 when analyzed in the same manner described above with respect to claim 21, claim 36 also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

[3] Claims 1-3, 5-8, 11-16, 18-24, 27, 29-35, 36-39, and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Segal et al., (United States Patent Application Publication #2001/0041991).

[A] As per claim 1, Segal et al., discloses a method of creating a conveniently accessible medical history for a patient, said method comprising the steps of: 1) establishing an

Art Unit: 3626

information-transmission connection with a remote information-input node (Segal et al.; paragraph [0104]); 2) receiving medical information through said information-transmission connection from said information-input node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0104] [0110]); 3) configuring said information into a medical history record (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111]), which medical history record is storable on a portable readable storage medium (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0144] [0145][0146] [0151]); and 4) transmitting said medical history record to a remote record output node which record output node is configured to store said medical history record on said portable readable storage medium (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0144] [0145][0146] [0151]); whereby a conveniently accessible medical history can be created by storing said medical history record on said portable readable storage medium (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111] [0151]).

[B] As per claim 2, Segal et al., discloses further comprising the step of decrypting medical information received through said information-transmission connection (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0085] [0137]).

[C] As per claim 3, Segal et al., discloses further comprising the step of encrypting said medical history record prior to transmitting said medical history record to said record output node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0085] [0137]).

[D] As per claim 5, Segal et al., discloses wherein said transmitting step comprises transmitting said medical history record to a remote record output node, which record output

Art Unit: 3626

node is configured to store the medical history record on the portable readable storage medium and to allow a medical practitioner to inspect the medical history record prior to storage of the medical history record (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111] [0024]).

[E] As per claim 6, Segal et al., discloses the establishing step comprising establishing an information-transmission connection with a remote information-input node, which information-input node includes a computer (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111]).

[F] As per claim 7, Segal et al., discloses the establishing step comprising establishing an information-transmission connection with a remote information-input node, which information-input node includes a fax machine (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0023] [0118]), said information-transmission connection including a connection with said fax machine (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0118]).

[G] As per claim 8, Segal et al., discloses the configuring step further comprising configuring the information into a medical history record which is readable and displayable by an internet browser (Segal et al.; paragraph [0100]).

[H] As per claim 11, Segal et al., discloses the establishing step comprising establishing an information-transmission connection with an information-input node, which information-input node includes a storage computer storing medical information (Segal et al.; paragraph [0015]).

Art Unit: 3626

[I] As per claim 12, Segal et al., discloses the establishing step comprising establishing an information-transmission connection with a remote information-input node, which information-input node includes a scanner for scanning images and translating the images to a computer-storable format (Segal et al.; Abstract and paragraphs [0022] [0023] [0027]).

[J] As per claim 13, Segal et al., discloses wherein said configuring step further includes including in said medical history record medical condition information relating to a medical condition of said patient (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0024] [0113]).

[K] As per claim 14, Segal et al., discloses wherein said configuring step further includes including in the medical history record medical condition information relating to a medical condition of the patient, the medical condition information including information on symptoms and treatment of the medical condition (Segal et al.; paragraph [0113]).

[L] As per claim 15, Segal et al., discloses a method of creating a conveniently accessible medical history for a patient, said method comprising the steps of: 1) establishing an information-transmission connection with a remote record-creating node (Segal et al.; paragraph [0104]); 2) transmitting medical information through said information-transmission connection to said record-creating node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0104] [0110]), said record-creating node being adapted to configure said information into a medical history record (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111]), said medical history record being storable on a portable readable storage medium (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0144] [0145][0146] [0151]); 3) receiving said medical

Art Unit: 3626

history record from said record-creating node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0144] [0145][0146] [0151]); 4) storing said medical history record on said portable readable storage medium (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111] [0151]).

[M] As per claim 16, Segal et al., discloses further comprising the step of encrypting said medical information prior to transmitting said information to said record-creating node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0085] [0137]).

[N] As per claim 18, Segal et al., discloses said method further comprising the step of decrypting said medical history record received from said record creating node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0085] [0137]).

[O] As per claim 19, Segal et al., discloses further comprising the step of inspecting said medical history record prior to the storing step (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0024] [0110] [0111]).

[P] As per claim 20, Segal et al., discloses the storing step comprising storing the medical history record on a compact disk (Segal et al.; paragraph [0151]).

[Q] As per claim 21 Segal et al., teaches the storing step comprising storing the medical history record on a compact disk (Segal et al.; paragraph [0151]) which is approximately the size of a conventional credit card.

Art Unit: 3626

[R] As per claim 22, Segal et al., discloses the establishing step comprising establishing an information-transmission connection which includes an internet connection (Segal et al.; Abstract and paragraph [0021]).

[S] As per claim 23, Segal et al., discloses wherein the step of transmitting said information comprises transmitting said information by fax (Segal et al.; paragraph [0118]).

[T] As per claim 24, Segal et al., discloses further comprising, prior to said transmitting step, the step of scanning medical information images with a scanner for translating images into a computer storable form (Segal et al.; Abstract and paragraphs [0022] [0023] [0027]).

[U] As per claim 27, Segal et al., discloses the receiving step comprising receiving a medical history record, readable and displayable by an internet browser, from the record-creating node (Segal et al.; paragraph [0100]).

[V] As per claim 29, Segal et al., discloses the transmitting step comprising transmitting medical information through the information-transmission connection to the record-creating node, which record-creating node is associated with an application service provider (Segal et al.; Fig. 1 and paragraphs [0110] [0111]).

[W] As per claim 30, Segal et al., discloses system for creating a conveniently accessible medical history for a patient, said system comprising: an information-input node for receiving

Art Unit: 3626

medical information and transmitting said information through an information-transmission connection (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0104] [0110]); a record-creating node, remote from said information-input node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111]), for receiving said information through said information-transmission connection (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111] [0113]), for configuring said information into a medical history record (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111] [0113]), and for transmitting said medical history record (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0137]); a record output node, remote from said record-creating node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0137] [0144][0145] [0146]), for receiving said medical history record from said record-creating node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0137] [0144][0145] [0146]) and for storing said medical history record on a portable readable storage medium (Segal et al.; paragraph [0151]).

[X] As per claim 31, Segal et al., discloses said information-input node including means for encrypting said information transmitted through said information-transmission connection (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0085] [0137]).

[Y] As per claim 32, Segal et al., discloses said record creating node including means for encrypting said medical history record transmitted from said record-creating node to said record output node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0085] [0137]).

[Z] As per claim 33, Segal et al., discloses said record output node including means for decrypting said medical history record (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0085] [0137]).

Art Unit: 3626

[AA] As per claim 34, Segal et al., discloses said record output node being configured to permit inspection of said medical history record by a medical practitioner prior to said medical history record being stored on said portable readable storage medium (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0024] [0110] [0111]).

[BB] As per claim 35, Segal et al., discloses wherein said portable readable storage medium is a compact disk (Segal et al.; paragraph [0151]).

[CC] As per claim 36, Segal et al., teaches wherein said portable readable storage medium is approximately the size of a conventional credit card (Segal et al.; paragraph [0151])

[DD] As per claim 37, Segal et al., discloses said information-input node comprising a computer (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0110] [0111]).

[EE] As per claim 38, Segal et al., discloses said information input node further comprising a fax machine (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0023] [0118]), said information-transmission connection further comprising a connection between said fax machine and said record-creating node (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0118]).

[FF] As per claim 39, Segal et al., discloses said medical history record being configured so as to be readable and displayable by a conventional internet browser (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0100]).

[GG] As per claim 42, Segal et al., discloses said record creating node being associated with an application service provider (Segal et al.; Fig. 1 and paragraphs [0110] [0111]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

[4] Claims 4, 9, 10, 17, 25-26, 28, and 40-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Segal et al., in view of Felsher (United States Patent Application Publication #2002/0010679).

[A] As per claims 4 and 17, although Segal et al., teaches the use of encryption in transmitting data (Segal et al.; paragraphs [0085] [0137]), Segal et al., fails to specifically teach the use of PKI encryption.

[i] However, Felsher teaches wherein said encrypting step comprises encrypting by PKI encryption (Felsher; paragraph [0270]).

[ii] It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Segal et al., with those of Felsher. Such combination would have resulted in a mobile electronic medical records system capable of delivering records encrypted with a public key-private key (PKI) recognition (Felsher; paragraph [0269]). The motivation to combine would have been ensure that when a recipient seeks a record, he must identify himself, his role in the patient care, and the identity of the patient and/or record (Felsher; paragraph [0254]).

Art Unit: 3626

[B] As per claims 9-10, 25-26, 40-41, although the system and method disclosed by Segal et al., is Internet based, Segal et al., does not specifically teach the use of HTML (claims 9, 25, and 40) or XML (claims 10, 26, and 41).

[i] However, Felsher teaches the configuring step further comprising configuring the information into a medical history record which is represented in HTML (claims 9, 25, and 40) (Felsher; paragraph [0107]). Felsher further teaches the configuring step further comprising configuring the information into a medical history record which is represented in XML (claims 10, 26, and 41) (Felsher; paragraph [0303]).

[ii] It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Segal et al., with those of Felsher. The motivation to combine would have been to use a common file-tagging format, for example extensible markup language (XML) to encode records such that elements would be tagged in a standardized format (Felsher; paragraph [0303]).

[C] As per claim 28, Segal et al., does not specifically disclose the use of a format compatible with the record-creating node.

[i] However, Felsher does teach said method further comprising, prior to said transmitting step, the step of translating the medical history information into a format compatible with the record-creating node (Felsher; paragraphs [0302] [0303]).

[ii] It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Segal et al., with those of Felsher. The motivation to combine would have been to utilize a common file-tagging format to enhance the level of interoperability and portability of electronic medical records between various health care professionals and researchers (Felsher et al.; paragraphs [0302] [0303]).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Wilkins, INDIVIDUALIZED PATIENT ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS SYSTEM,
United States Patent #6,523,009

Snowden et al., SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATED CREATION OF PATIENT
CONTROLLED RECORDS, United States Patent Application Publication #2002/0026332

Salisbury, CONSUMER ELECTRONIC MEDICAL FILE SHARING SYSTEM (CEMRFS),
United States Patent Application Publication #2002/0123909

Art Unit: 3626

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert D. Rines whose telephone number is 571-272-5585. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on 571-272-6776. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

R.D.R.

R. D. Rines
11/10/05

~~JOSEPH THOMAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER~~

Joseph Thomas
JOSEPH THOMAS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER